



City of Long Beach

GARY DELONG
COUNCILMEMBER, THIRD DISTRICT

November 6, 2007

The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher
U.S. House of Representatives
2300 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Increased Army Corps Funding for the Colorado Lagoon Restoration

Dana
Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

Earlier this year you submitted a Fiscal Year 2008 (FY 08) Appropriations Request on behalf of the City of Long Beach to participate in the restoration of the Colorado Lagoon. As you know, the Colorado Lagoon (Lagoon) is a 28.9-acre tidal lagoon located in the middle of a suburban neighborhood. The Lagoon is used by thousands of visitors from communities within and surrounding the City of Long Beach, and we are very appreciative for your support of this project.

As the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) assembles its budget requests for the President's FY 09 Budget, Long Beach would like to request their consideration of \$2.2 million in increased funding for the Colorado Lagoon Restoration project. Specifically, we would greatly appreciate it if you would send the attached letter to the Army Corps on our behalf. When I was in Washington, D.C. during the week of September 17th, we discussed this issue (as well as others) with Army Corps of Engineers staff and was advised that the next step is to request your assistance. Based on our meeting, I believe the Army Corps is interested in further participation in this project, and we will continue to work with them on both a local and national level.

Please know that the City is committed to doing its share on this project. If Army Corps funding is increased for the proposed project, the City of Long Beach commits to contributing \$1.7 million (or 35% of the total \$4.8 million dredging project cost). Additionally, since the total cost of the Lagoon restoration project is approximately \$15 million, the federal share will be around 20%.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Gary DeLong
Councilmember
Chair of the Federal Legislation Committee

CC: Bob Foster, Mayor of Long Beach
Pat West, City Manager